

## IN THE CLAIMS

### LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A vehicle seat linkage assembly including a threaded rod defining a longitudinal axis, the linkage assembly comprising, in combination:
  - a first link having a portion forming an enclosed aperture;
  - a second link adjacent but spaced away from the first link, the second link having a portion forming a slot, the slot having a circular portion, the circular portion and the enclosed aperture defining a lateral axis extending between the first link and the second link; and
  - a drive nut threadably engaging the rod, the drive nut having a body portion, one lateral projection and another lateral and a pair of projections with each projection extending oppositely from the body portion, opposite the one projection and a protion engaging the rod, the drive nut and rod being movable so that the longitudinal axis is positioned relative to the lateral axis to insert the one of the pair of projections projection into the slot and to position the end of the another projection adjacent but spaced away from the aperture and with a portion of one of the pair of projections while the one lateral projection remains disposed in the slot, the another projection having a width substantially the same as the bore of the aperture, thereafter moving the another of the pair of projections projection is moved laterally relative to the slot relative to the lateral axis to insert the another of the pair of projections projection into the aperture while the one lateral projection remains the slot and lock the drive nut in the first link.
2. (Original) A linkage assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the slot and the aperture are in alignment with one another.
3. (Original) A linkage assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the slot having a portion forming an arcuate portion and a guide portion in communication with the arcuate portion.
4. (Currently Amended) A linkage assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the first link and second link are spaced apart by a first width, the body portion having a second width, the another of the pair of projections projection has a shoulder portion adjacent the bore extending from the body portion a third width, the second width and

the third width being less than the first width.

5. (Original) A linkage assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the slot further has a pair of opposing straight sided portions in communication with the circular portion, the circular portion forming a first axis of rotation and the aperture forming a second axis of rotation that defines the lateral axis between the first link and the second link.

6. (Currently Amended) A linkage assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the longitudinal axis and lateral axis are substantially normal to each other when the one of the pair of projections ~~lateral projection~~ is inserted into the slot.

7. (Currently Amended) A linkage assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the ~~second~~ another of the pair of projections ~~lateral projection~~ has a shoulder portion adjacent a circular portion, the circular portion being sized to fit into the aperture, the shoulder portion is adjacent the aperture in the second link when the ~~second lateral~~ another of the pair of projections ~~projection~~ is inserted into the second link.

8. (Original) A linkage assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the drive nut has an internal threaded portion, the rod having an external threaded portion.

9. (Original) A linkage assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the enclosed aperture has an inner arcuate portion forming at least 85% of the inner surface of the aperture.

10. (Original) A linkage assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the enclosed aperture has an inner arcuate portion forming at least 90% of the inner surface of the aperture.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of connecting a first seat member to a second seat member and adapted to move relative to one another to adjust their relative positions by a threaded rod defining a longitudinal axis, the method comprising:

providing a threaded drive nut adjacent to one of the first seat member and the second seat member, the drive nut having one lateral projection end, another lateral projection end opposite the one projection end and a threaded portion engaging the rod,

providing a pair of spaced apart links on one of the first seat member and the second seat member, each of the pair of links having an aperture and forming a planar surface, and a transverse axis extending between each of the planar

surfaces of each of the pair of spaced apart links, one of the pair of links having a slot opening extending inwardly to the aperture, the other of the pair of links having an enclosed aperture;

moving the drive nut and rod ~~so that~~ along the longitudinal axis; is positioned so as to insert

inserting the one lateral projection end into the slot opening;

and the positioning the another lateral projection end is positioned in an adjacent but spaced away position relative to the enclosed aperture while a portion of the one lateral projection end remains is disposed in the slot opening; the ~~another lateral projection end having width substantially the same as the bore of the aperture;~~

moving the another projection end along relative to the transverse axis to capture ~~insert~~ the another projection end into the enclosed aperture while the one lateral projection end remains disposed in the slot opening; and

rotating the drive nut to engage the slot in one ~~each aperture in each of the~~ pair of spaced apart links so that the drive nut is captured in and prevented from disengaging each of the pair of links when the drive nut is activated, ~~to move the first and second frame members relative to each other.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 11 ~~wherein~~ further comprising:

separating the spaced apart links from each other by a first width;

providing the drive nut with a second width; and

providing the another lateral projection end has a shoulder portion and a circular portion adjacent the shoulder portion, the circular portion being sized to fit into the aperture, the shoulder portion is adjacent the aperture in the second link when the second with a third width, the second and third width are less than the first width ~~lateral projection is inserted into the second link.~~

13. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the aperture in ~~on~~ one lateral projection is enclosed and the slot opening in the other lateral projection is ~~a key hole slot opening, the opening has a circular portion and a pair of opposing straight sided portions in communication with the circular portion.~~

14. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the aperture in one lateral projection ~~has a~~ is enclosed and the slot opening is in communication with the circular portion of the aperture, the slot opening has a pair of opposing straight sided portions in communication with the circular portion, the one end and the opposite end of the drive nut each have a portion forming a circular section with a pair of opposite straight sides, the width between the pair of opposite sides being of the size to pass through the pair of opposing straight sided portions of the slot opening in the one ~~of the~~ projection end and into the enclosed aperture in the other ~~of the~~ projection end ~~and the engagement of the drive nut or the threaded nut prevent the drive end from moving laterally to disengage the enclosed aperture.~~

15. (Currently Amended) A seat adjuster having first and second frame members adapted to move relative to one another to adjust the position of the first frame member relative to the second frame member, the adjuster comprising, in combination:

a first link attached to the frame, the first link having portions forming an ~~enclosed~~ aperture;

a second link attached to the first frame in spaced apart relationship to the first link, the second link having a portion forming a slot, the first link and the second link are in alignment with each other and defining an alignment axis and a laterally extending axis that is normal to the alignment axis, the laterally extending axis is and between the first link and the second link, the first link and the second link are spaced apart by a first width;

a drive nut adjacent ~~one of the first link and~~ the second link, the drive nut having one end, another end and a portion extending between the one end and another end, the portion defining a longitudinal axis, the portion of the drive nut having a second width, the drive nut further having a pair of projections with each projection extending oppositely from the portion, one of the pair of projections extends laterally from the portion by a third width, the second width of the drive nut and the third width of one of the pair of projections is less than the first width, the longitudinal axis of the drive nut is positioned

offset relative to the laterally extending axis to move one of the pair of projections engage into the slot and along the laterally extending axis to dispose the other of the pair of projections into the aperture in the first link then while the one of the pair of projections drive nut is engaged to disposed in the slot, ~~moving the drive nut relative to the laterally extending axis to insert the another end into the enclosed aperture, wherein~~ so that after the drive nut is disposed in both the slot and the aperture, the nut is rotated to prevent the one end of the drive nut from disengaging the slot ~~while the another end is captured in the enclosed aperture.~~

16. (Currently Amended) The seat adjuster as claimed in claim 15 wherein the slot has a portion forming a circular portion and a pair of ~~apposing~~ opposing straight sided portions in communication with the circular portion, the circular portion and the enclosed aperture form a transverse axis that is substantially normal to the alignment axis.

17. (Currently Amended) A linkage assembly adapted for use with a vehicle seat frame, the linkage assembly comprising, in combination:

- a first member adjacent the seat frame;

- a second member adjacent but spaced away from the first member, the first member has a first aperture and the second member has a second aperture, the first aperture and the second aperture each has a portion forming an inner peripheral surface and defining a transverse axis extending between the first member and the second member; ~~and~~

- a drive nut adjacent the first and second members, the drive nut has a body portion, a longitudinal axis extending there through and a pair of ends extending laterally of the longitudinal axis, ~~the drive nut is positioned such that the longitudinal axis is moved offset relative to the transverse axis and the one end is inserted into the first aperture and then, while the one end remains engaged in the aperture, the other end is moved laterally so as to be inserted into the second aperture, to prevent the withdrawal of the other end of the drive nut from the second aperture and then the drive nut is rotated to capture the one end in the first aperture.;~~ and

offset relative to the laterally extending axis to move one of the pair of projections engage into the slot and along the laterally extending axis to dispose the other of the pair of projections into the aperture in the first link then while the one of the pair of projections drive nut is engaged to disposed in the slot, ~~moving the drive nut relative to the laterally extending axis to insert the another end into the enclosed aperture, wherein so that~~ after the drive nut is disposed in both the slot and the aperture, the nut is rotated to prevent the one end of the drive nut from disengaging the slot ~~while the another end is captured in the enclosed aperture.~~

16. (Currently Amended) The seat adjuster as claimed in claim 15 wherein the slot has a portion forming a circular portion and a pair of ~~apposing~~ opposing straight sided portions in communication with the circular portion, the circular portion and the enclosed aperture form a transverse axis that is substantially normal to the alignment axis.

17. (Currently Amended) A linkage assembly adapted for use with a vehicle seat frame, the linkage assembly comprising, in combination:

a first member adjacent the seat frame;

a second member adjacent but spaced away from the first member, the first member has a first aperture and the second member has a second aperture, the first aperture and the second aperture each has a portion forming an inner peripheral surface and defining a transverse axis extending between the first member and the second member; and

a drive nut adjacent the first and second members, the drive nut has a body portion, a longitudinal axis extending there through and a pair of ends extending laterally of the longitudinal axis, ~~the drive nut is positioned such that the longitudinal axis is moved offset relative to the transverse axis and the one end is inserted into the first aperture and then, while the one end remains engaged in the aperture, the other end is moved laterally so as to be inserted into the second aperture, to prevent the withdrawal of the other end of the drive nut from the second aperture and then the drive nut is rotated to capture the one end in the first aperture.; and~~

means for engaging the first and second members with the drive nut so that when the one end is inserted into the first aperture and while a portion of the one end is disposed in the first aperture, the other end is moved laterally and inserted into the second aperture thereby locking the drive nut in the second aperture and then the drive nut is rotated to capture the one end in the first aperture.

18. (Currently Amended) A linkage assembly according to claim 17 further comprising:

a drive motor connected to the drive nut; ~~and~~

~~a linkage assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the enclosed aperture has a portion forming an arcuate inner surface in the first link to engage a section of one end of the drive to encapsulate and lock the drive nut therein.~~

19. (Currently Amended) A linkage assembly as claimed in claim 17 wherein the first member and second member are separated by a first width, the body portion one of the pair of end of the drive nut has a second width; circular section with at least one flattened side, the circular section is of a size to engage a portion of the first aperture, one of the pair of ends extending from the body portion, the one of the pair of ends has a third width, the second width and third width when combined are less than the first width.

20. (Currently Amended) A linkage assembly as claimed in claim 17 wherein the second aperture has a portion forming an inner peripheral surface ~~in~~ in the first member, the inner surface includes an arcuate portion forming at least 90% of the inner surface.